

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/715,981

Applicant(s)

LARUE, CHRIS

Examiner

Art Unit

Miranda Le

2167

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Supplemental Amendment, filed 03/14/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8, 12, 14-23, 25-31, now renumbered as 1-26.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 17 November 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                    |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance              |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

Miranda Le  
March 29, 2005

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Receipt of Applicant's Supplemental Amendment, filed 03/14/2005 is acknowledged.

Claims 1-32 are pending. Claims 1, 14, 17, 23, 30, 31 are independent claims. In the Amendment, claims 1, 14, 23, 31 have been amended, claims 9-11, 24, 32 have been canceled, no claims have been added.

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Claim 1, line 1, the status of claim 1 should be changed from "Previously presented" to "Currently amended".

### ***Reasons for Allowance***

3. Claims 1-8, 12, 14-23, 25-31 are allowed, now renumbered as 1-26.
4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:  

The present invention is directed to inheritance-aware synchronization between a so-called personal dataset and its so-called alter ego, wherein a user is allowed to inherit data from parent datasets into the user's own child dataset. The parent datasets can further inherit data from

each other, so that the user can inherit data from a parent dataset, which inherits the data from a grandparent dataset. Such inheritance may be on a record level or on a dataset level, or a combination of the two.

Claims 1, 14, 23, 31 identify the uniquely distinct feature of “inheritance-aware” handling of modifications to inherited items:

“wherein the user cannot modify the second dataset and the first dataset is a personal dataset in which the user can annotate the inherited first data item;

synchronizing the first dataset with the alter-ego dataset and propagating the first data item from the second dataset so that after the synchronization the alter-ego dataset has a copy of the first data item from the second dataset, wherein a local copy of the first data item is stored in the first dataset prior to the synchronization with the alter-ego dataset;

receiving an update to the first data item from the alter-ego dataset during a further synchronization; and entering the update from the alter-ego dataset into the local copy of the first data item”.

The closest prior art, Chu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,720), shows a substantially similar method for a metadata synchronizer wherein data stored on a data storage device connected to a computer is synchronized. A tool that operates on an object is monitored to identify changes to metadata of that object at specified intervals, and when changes to the metadata are identified, an information catalog containing corresponding metadata for the object is updated. However, Chu et al. fail to anticipate or render the above-cited limitations obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

***Conclusion***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Miranda Le whose telephone number is (703) 305-3203. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene, can be reached on (703) 305-9790. The fax number to this Art Unit is (703) 872-9306. The TC 2100's Customer Service number is (703) 306-5631.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.



Miranda Le  
March 29, 2005

